

Roger and the Second Crusade
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among men and strength of body; and
now how
would he answer to God for the
employment of
these gifts? The King answered amid
his tears:
<'I acknowledge the gifts of the Divine
Grace and
will no more, be found ungrateful.
That which I
am commanded to do by the Lord I am
willing to
do for His service.' * When Bernard
handed to the
King from oil the altar a holy banner,
one great
shout of joy went up, and numerous
princes and
lords pledged themselves to the Cross*
His errand finished swiftly and
successfully, the
Abbot of Clairvaux returned once
more to his
cloister, wonders and miracles of
healing following
the steps of the man of God wherever
he came,
While every corner of Europe was full
of the Cru-
sade, he himself had pledged the two
greatest
kings of the West to command and
direct the

armed enthusiasm which set its face
eastward.

In every the Second Crusade was
his work;

it was he more than any other man
who roused
Western Europe to the appeal of the
East, and his
was to be whatever glory or shame
was to attend
the cause,

Throughout the winter of 1146-7,
Germany,
France, and, to a degree, England,
Spain,

and Scandinavia, were occupied in equipping the multitudes who had the Cross. One kingdom showed no symptoms of the crusading fever, and one King, at least, meant to take no personal share in the enterprise. Roger 11,'» activities were mainly concerned with his new realm, his concrete